

Message Text

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73

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-13 CU-04 RSR-01 /130 W

----- 114260

R 171443Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8477

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

USUN NEW YORK 836

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS PRETORIA 2913

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, WA, SF

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: MORE VIOLENCE IN WINDHOEK AND OWAMBO

REF: PRETORIA 2897

1. SITUATION IN WINDHOEK AND OWAMBO CONTINUES TO DETERIORATE
AS FURTHER VIOLENT INCIDENTS ARE REPORTED.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, HUGE CROWD OF AFRICANS WENT
ON RAMPAGE IN WINDHOEK'S OWAMBO MIGRANT WORKERS COMPOUND AUGUST 16.
WORKERS ATTACKED AND STONED BLACK MUNICIPAL CONSTABLES AND,
WHEN 17 CONSTABLES TOOK REFUGE IN THEIR OWN QUARTERS, LOCKED THEM IN
AND TRIED TO BURN THEM ALIVE. CONSTABLES REPORTEDLY ESCAPED WITHOUT
SERIOUS INJURY. STRONG FORCE OF POLICE IN RIOT TRUCKS
AND ARMORED CARS AND ARMED WITH AUTOMATIC FIREARMS HAVE
SEALED OFF COMPOUND.

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3. IN ANOTHER INCIDENT IN WINDHOEK, POLICE RAIDED SOUTH

WEST AFRICA PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATION (SWAPO) YOUTH LEAGUE MEETING, LOOKING FOR MEN WHO HAD SPOKEN AT PUBLIC MEETING AUGUST 12. ONE SWAPO MEMBER WAS SHOT DEAD. THREE OTHER MEMBERS OF SWAPO WERE ARRESTED EARLIER IN DAY. THEY ARE MARTIN KAPEWASHA, MISS VICTORINA NAMENE AND MISS ELIZABETH MARTIN.

4. IN OWAMBO ITSELF, POLICE ARE REPORTED TO HAVE CLASHED WITH PUPILS AT TWO SCHOOLS AUGUST 16 WHEN THEY WENT TO ARREST TEACHERS. NUMBER OF PEOPLE DETAINED IN OWAMBO IN LAST TWO DAYS HAS RISEN TO AT LEAST 36, AND THERE ARE UNCONFIRMED REPORTS OF AT LEAST TWO DEATHS-- A POLICEMAN AND A CIVILIAN-- RESULTING FROM POLICE ACTION. POLICE REPORTEDLY TOLD AN UNIDENTIFIED WINDHOEK ATTORNEY THAT MAJORITY OF PEOPLE ARRESTED IN PAST TWO DAYS WOULD NOT BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL; THEY ARE BEING HELD UNDER REGULATIONS WHICH ALLOW INDEFINITE DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL.
SMITH

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NNN

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30 JUN 2005

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